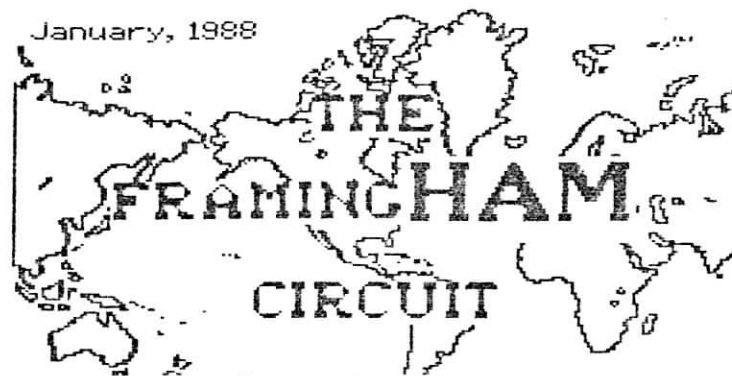


January, 1988



The Monthly Publication of WIFY, The Framingham Amateur Radio Association  
F.A.R.A., P.O. Box 3005, Framingham, Ma., 01701 Vol. 55 No. 1

## Meetings

The club meets on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30pm at the Danforth Museum rear entrance on Lexington St., Framingham, Ma.

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 7, 1987

## Guest Speaker

DEC. 1987

Our Activities Chairperson, Marjie Stern, KAIHIA, has our own **Ed Weiss** lined up as the speaker at our next meeting. He will give us a lesson which we can all find very useful. He will talk about BASIC ELECTRICAL SAFETY IN THE HOME. He will have props and other surprises that will make this one the one you won't want to miss.

## Graduation

Ed Weiss, WINXC, is our Chairperson who is in part responsible for bringing new blood into our club by doing a fantastic job of teaching Amateur Radio. Ed and his crew of instructors have again finished their annual fall Amateur Radio classes. At this meeting you will meet the new Novice Class Amateur Radio licencees and be able to welcome them into the fold.

Ed will present them with their graduation certificates on behalf of F.A.R.A. at the meeting. Welcome Aboard!

## Tech Classes

The next Technician / General classes are scheduled to begin with class registration on the 9th of January. The first class will then begin on the 16th. Registration and the subsequent classes will be held at the Framingham Public Library downstairs in the program room near the children's section. Good Luck!

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## From The Podium!

It's time again for NEW YEAR resolutions! Some of us will promise no more cigarettes, others will swear off pigging out on weekends, and still more will take the oath never to do this or that for evermore. Even though the biggest percentage of these promises are nothing more than pie in the sky, it still feels good making the commitment and being the perennial optimist. So along with your yearly ritual I would like to ask that you add one more item to your list. Volunteering your help for your club.

It is with this spirit that I would like to thank the people that make things happen for your club.

Don Morse, KA1MLM, a very good UP who covers all the bases when they have to be covered.

Lew Nyman, K1AZE, one of the driving forces behind FARA's success, Flea Market chairman, antenna specialist (only on cold rainy days) and all around great help.

Karen Nyman, KA1BYP, one of the driving forces behind K1AZE and a great help not only for our refreshments but whenever needed.

Dick Marshall, WA1KUG, our Treasurer and Volunteer Examiner in charge of testing at the Flea Markets. Chief cook at Field Day, Field Day chairman, and all around great help.

Marsha Marshall, KA1JIR, helping in getting the newsletter stamped and stapled and always available whenever needed.

Marc Stern, N1BLH, our Secretary and Net Controller and a man that wears many hats for coordinating emergency services and helps when needed.

Marjie Stern, KAIHIA, our Activities chairperson who gets those interesting speakers for meeting night.

Ed Weiss, WINXC Education chairman who devotes Saturday mornings all year

long so that future HAMS can understand theory and learn code.

DEC. 1987 THANKS TO:

MARY WEISS, K1HGL, for giving up her Saturday mornings to support Ed and help in the learning process.

WAYNE LEDDER, W1EWL, for helping to teach some of these classes.

TED GRUBER, WB1ECE, NEWSLETTER Editor and PICNIC Chairman. Thanks, Ted, for taking on a difficult job and putting out a classy newsletter.

JUDY GRUBER, K1NPT, for helping on the picnic committee and supporting Ted with the newsletter.

ARNIE ZUNICK, K1BPM, TECHNICAL chairman from way up North, who shares his expertise and keeps the repeater on the air.

DICK LANDAU, W1IBN, BANQUET chairman. I'm sure it will be nice.

JULIE, W1DL, and SYLVIA HOFFER, for donating their time and articles useful to the club.

GEORGE BLAKESLEE, N1GB, SCHOLARSHIP committee chairman, for a fine job every year.

PETER SIMPSON, K1AXY, for the fine job in organizing the HOSPITALITY and Refreshments following the meetings.

A special thank you for Toby, N1DDO, for her tremendous support.

I'm sorry if I missed anyone. However, I would like to thank those who have shared their time and effort for the club and wish that you will make a NEW YEAR resolution to join our team.

73's BURT, N1DDO

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\*\*\* HAPPY NEW YEAR \*\*\*

MINUTES OF DECEMBER, 1987  
MEETING OF THE FRAMINGHAM AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSN. INC.

The December meeting of the Framingham Amateur Radio Assn. opened on a different note: our Activities Officer, Marjie Stern, K1HIA, introduced our guest speaker Bruce Schwoegler, morning meteorologist for Channel 4. We decided to let him have the floor before the business meeting because of his early hours. He gave us a very interesting look at the weather and media.

The business meeting opened at 8:49 with Burt Shaffer, N1DDO, presiding. After introductions, the following reports were heard and accepted by the membership:

- . Treasurer's report.
- . Education Committee report.
- . Technical Committee report.
- . Emergency Communications Committee report.

Highlighting the reports from the Education and Technical Committees was the following information:

According to Education Committee Chairman, Ed Weiss, W1NXC, to the date of the meeting, only four of the more than 20 students in the novice class had not taken their codes exams yet. Ed fully expected 90 percent of the class to have successfully completed their novice exams before the holiday break.

According to Lew Nyman, K1AZE, station trustee and chairman of the Technical Committee, the new Butternut Butterfly beam is up and working, although it still needed some adjustment on 20 meters.

According to Marc, N1BLH, emergency net manager, the town is moving toward the purchase of an emergency communications van. However, the nature of the equipment, type of van, and exact needs have yet to be spelled out by the new Hazardous Materials Coordination Chairman, Joe Champagne. It will still be six to eight months before things are on a firmer footing. Marc also reported that Weather Net will be reactivated this month.

Dick Marshall, W1KUG, treasurer and chairman of the Volunteer Exam Committee, noted briefly that it was now taking eight to ten weeks for the ARRL and FCC to process successful license upgrade information.

Moving on to new business, Burt noted that it was time to begin planning the club's annual banquet. This debate sparked some lively comment.

Lew suggested that since the club was happy with last year's banquet site and the format that we continue it this year. The comments about last year's site were uniformly good to excellent.

Ted Gruber, W1ECE, suggested that "something was missing" and he urged the club to hire a band or disk jockey to provide some background music and music for dancing.

It was pointed out following this comment that most of those who attended the 1985 banquet found that they would rather socialize than listen to music.

The debate continued hot and heavy for a few minutes and finally Burt asked for a show of hands from the membership to decide the issue. A clear majority of the more than 50 members present voted for a simple dinner and socializing, while only four or five voted for dancing.

Even after the vote, it was noted by Marsha Marshall, KA1J1R, that there are few volunteers for club committees and that a dinner and dancing would take time, volunteers and money. She then asked who would be willing to take on the job of chairman. After some minutes, Dick Landau, W1IBN, volunteered for the job.

Dick reaffirmed the club's stand on entertainment and the club moved on to other new business.

Next, Burt mentioned the scholarship and noted that the checks were delayed in delivery and noted that the club will make sure they are delivered on time in the future.

Scholarship Committee Chairman, George Blakeslee, N1GB, noted that it was time to

begin thinking about the scholarship for the 1987-1988 year and asked the club to consider the realities of educational life and raise the amount of the award. After some debate, the club set the award limit at up to \$1,250.

George also noted that he was willing to continue to chair the committee, but that he was looking for more help. Bob Gettys, N1BRM, volunteered to lend a hand.

In the final business of the meeting, Burt read a note from Hal and Shanie Alman's, WN1TKD/W1WGX, grandson, an extra from the Midwest, thanking us for the scholarship award.

Members then shared some interesting on-the-air experiences and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. when we adjourned to our annual home baked holiday goodies.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Marc Stern, N1BLH, Secretary

FOR SALE:

FOR SALE -- Kenwood TS-520SE HF transceiver and desk microphone. 400 Hz narrow CW filter installed. Recently factory-aligned, asking \$475. Makes a great first rig or backup rig. Call Marc, N1BLH, days. 467-6585

FOR SALE -- Kenwood R-1000 receiver. Receives from 500 Hz to 30 MHz, CW, SSB and AM (narrow and wide). Digital readout. Can be a pair with transmitter or transceiver. Asking, \$275. Call Marc, N1BLH, days. 467-6585.

FOR SALE -- How many times have you wished you could have letter quality printouts from your computer, but, at low cost. If you have, then the following items may be for you:

1. Canon S-15 electronic daisywheel typewriter. 2K memory buffer; user-settable parameters, typewriter features: automatic correction memory buffer;

automatic justification; auto-hyphen zone, and more. Basic typewriter: \$135. External computer interface: \$40. Both in mint condition.

2. Canon Typestar 5 electronic dot matrix typewriter. Uses 36-wire printhead and thermosensitive ribbons for letter quality printer. Typestar 5 features built-in serial printer interface for a computer; two typefaces; 2K memory buffer; special format memory to store frequently used formats, and more. Asking, \$125. Call Marc on either typewriter days at 467-6585.

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FOR SALE --1. Hal 2100 Receive Terminal.  
2. Hal 2100 Keyboard with manuals.  
3. NEC 13" Monitor  
Call Ed, WB1GBU, 875-3937

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WANTED -- Any parts that you might have available for my proposed 80' ROHN 25G Tower.

Contact Ken, WALKUL, 788-0186

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HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 92  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON, CT. DECEMBER 3, 1987  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

The comment and reply comment deadlines in general docket 87 389 have been extended as a result of requests from the ARRL and ten other organizations. In this docket the commission proposes to amend part 15 of its rules which permit unlicensed operation of very low rf devices such as remote control units, wireless microphones and cordless telephones. Petitioners felt that additional time was needed to file comments and reply comments with the commission due to the technical nature of this proposal. As a result, the FCC has extended the comment deadline until March 7, 1988 and the reply comment deadline has been extended until May 9, 1988.

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HR DX BULLETIN NR 48  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON, CT. DECEMBER 4, 1987  
EDITED BY K1BCMDSD  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BTMDSD

Thanks to W9NUF and the Northern Illinois DX Association for the following DX information.

Cape Verde Islands. D44BC has been very active during the past week. Watch 7002 KHz between 0100 and 0400Z. He was worked on 160 meters on 1845 KHz at 0450Z.

Eastern Malaysia. WA2HZR is currently active as 9M6ZR. QSLs go via his home callbook address.

Heard Island. An operation for VKOHI has been run almost nightly on 14250 KHz from 0400 to 0500Z. QSL via VK3EVN.

Kingman Reef/Palmyra Island. Rumors about of a possible operation which may occur as early as 1988.

Mozambique. C9MKT has been very active on 15 and 20 meter SSB during the past week. Reportedly he has a legitimate license which is said to expire next Monday. QSLs go via SM5KDM.

Thailand. HSOA was worked from the ninth call area last weekend on 3508 KHz at 2240Z. This was via gray line propagation and the opening lasted only a few minutes.

Niger. TU4BR/5U. Additional documentation for this operation has been received by the DXCC desk. DXCC credit is now being given for the TU4BR/5U operation.

DXAC note. The DX Advisory Committee has voted to recommend to the ARRL Awards Committee that Aruba be a separate country on the countries list. It will be taken up by the awards committee shortly.

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HR PROPAGATION FORECAST BULLETIN NR 49  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON, CT. DECEMBER 7, 1987,  
Edited by K1BC  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Solar flux figures for November set new records for cycle 22. The high for the month, 121, the November average, 98.3, and even the low, 91, are unmatched since early 1984. Comparisons between cycle 22,



to date, and the corresponding months of early cycle 21 tell a different story, however. Cycle 21 leads cycle 22 in 12 of the first 18 months of both cycles, and sometimes by impressive margins.

The new cycle was doing well in most respects last week, except for the loss of most high latitude DX on 21 MHz, after the solar flux dropped below 90 on December 2. The 21 MHz band continued lively, and the still lightly used 24 MHz was not seriously affected. Until the past few days, the writer was hearing 10 meter beacons from Europe, Africa, Australia and New Zealand almost daily, but only the W6s and W7s and the DX to the south have been good on 28 MHz recently.

Areas of the sun that brought the high solar flux in two previous solar rotations are facing the earth this week, but so far visible activity on the sun is far below that of November. Other formerly active areas, including the one responsible for the November 22 flux high of 121 will come into view after about December 13. There must be something left of that show to give us a lift after about the middle of December.

Disregarding the solar flux, general conditions on all DX bands should be at or near their best December 14 to 17 and 27 to 30, and the new year should start us off well, at least on 21 MHz and all lower frequencies. More details when these days are nearer at hand.

American sunspot numbers for November 19 through 25 were between 35 and 71 with a mean of 49.7. For November 26 through December 2, they were between 6 and 40 with a mean of 14.6. AR

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HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 94  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON, CT. DECEMBER 9, 1987  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Ralph Haller, N4RH, has been named Chief of the Private Radio Bureau at the FCC. This bureau oversees numerous radio services, including Amateur Radio. Haller joined the FCC in 1971 and has been Deputy Chief of the Private Radio Bureau during the past year. He is replacing Michael Fitch who

was appointed senior legal advisor to the FCC chairman.

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 87 FROM ARRL  
HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT NOVEMBER 17, 1987  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

W1AW BULLETINS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON  
COMPUSERVE. IF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH  
COMPUSERVE, SIMPLY SIGN ON, ENTER GO  
HAMNET, HEAD FOR THE DATA LIBRARIES AND  
SELECT THE ARRL NEWSLETTERS LIBRARY AR

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#### *Cul de Sac Bulletin Board*

This is a local bulletin board located in Holliston. If you have a computer and a modem you might find it very interesting. There is HAM related material which can be accessed. Log on and browse around the board. Initially they will give you 20 minutes of access time. There are many levels of membership access which you will learn about when you sign on. There is software to download and they will allow you to upload to their system. There is electronic mail service as well. Have a good time!

429-1784

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#### SWAP NETS

##### *2 Meters*

Wednesday 9:00 pm 146.64 -  
Waltham, Ma.

Friday 9:00 pm 147.30 +  
Weymouth, Ma.

Tuesday 8:00 pm 146.85 -  
Derry, N.H.

##### *80 Meters*

Hosstraders Net  
Sunday 4:00 pm 3942 KHz

Gator Net  
Mon. & Fri 8:00 pm 3898 KHz